

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT
AMONG
THE DIVISION OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
(DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION)
AND
THE DIVISION OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE
(DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES)
AND
THE DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE
(DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES)

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this Agreement is to set forth the working relationship among the agencies.

GENERAL AGREEMENT:

The participating agencies acknowledge that the aim of the agencies is to coordinate delivery of service offered by each agency to an individual who is eligible to receive services from any combination of agencies, and to exchange necessary medical, social and other pertinent information within the statutory and regulatory limitations of confidentiality.

In order to realize this goal, the three agencies agree to continue this Agreement as long as it is mutually satisfactory and to modify the Agreement when, on the basis of experience, it becomes clear that the objective is not being met.

The Division of Public Assistance Agrees:

- 1) To refer exempt, incapacitated AFDC recipients who reside in Alaska Work Program areas for Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) services, in accordance with 45 CFR 224.20(d).
- 2) To provide eligibility determinations for Medicaid and General Relief Medical (GRM) covered services for an individual who is eligible to receive benefits from the Division of Medical Assistance (DMA) and DVR.
- 3) To make available to DVR a list containing the location of each DPA office, the name of a designated individual in each office, and the telephone number of that individual.
- 4) To accept individuals referred from DVR as Medicaid and GRM applicants. (No medical benefits will be paid unless the applicant is found eligible.)
- 5) To provide, upon request from DVR, written verification that a GRM applicant has been found eligible for services. This verification will assist vocational rehabilitation counselors in developing Individualized Written Rehabilitation (IWRP) program which requires physical restoration services. DVR will provide a copy of the IWRP upon request of DMA or DPA. The IWRP will contain services that are planned for the handicapped individual to obtain an employment goal, and the funding sources.

- 6) To inform DVR, upon request, when a GPM recipient is no longer eligible for medical services. Upon request, DVR will notify DPA and/or DMA when the client is no longer receiving services and the case is closed, giving the reason for closure.

The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Agrees:

- 1) To accept and screen referrals and provide feedback as requested to DPA and DMA as to the status (outcome) of the referral. Those found acceptable or eligible for DVR services will be provided the necessary DVR services as allowed under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended.
- 2) To provide the necessary coordination with DPA and DMA when a joint client is involved. Because the DVR is an agency funded at a maximum dollar amount each year, and furthermore must comply with its regulations and similar benefits, it is imperative that Medicaid (or other medical coverage) is considered as the first dollar (prime resource) in the area of physical restoration cases. Within this joint arrangement at times there will be some physical restoration services which are not allowed under Medicaid or other coverage, but which may be provided under DVR.
- 3) To provide to DPA and DMA an updated list containing the location of each branch office, the name of a designated individual in each branch office, and telephone number.
- 4) To schedule at least quarterly meetings between respective personnel to discuss mutual problems as informal, in-service, short-term training.
- 5) To provide DPA, upon request, information concerning types and amounts of in-kind or cash aid, allowances, and reimbursements furnished by DVR to mutual clients.

The Division of Medical Assistance Agrees:

- 1) To provide information on request to DVR regarding Medicaid and GRM coverage and eligibility policies.
- 2) To make available to DVR a list of each DMA office and a contact person in each office.
- 3) To provide, on request from DVR, information concerning services utilized by mutual clients in order to determine whether they are complying with their DVR rehabilitation plan.

THIS AGREEMENT IS EFFECTIVE UNTIL ANY PARTY HERETO GIVES 30 DAYS WRITTEN NOTICE TO THE OTHER SIGNIFYING A DESIRE TO AMEND OR CANCEL THIS AGREEMENT.

8/22/88
DATE

Keith J. Anderson

Keith J. Anderson, Director
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
Department of Education

8-15-88
DATE

John R. Taber

John R. Taber, Director
Division of Public Assistance
Department of Health & Social Services

8-11-88
DATE

Kim Busch

Kim Busch, Director
Division of Medical Assistance
Department of Health & Social Services